

Crime Scene Management

Criminal Justice

The sequence that protects a scene from the first moment of arrival.

Order matters: the most fragile traces are lost first.

1

Preserve life

Medical need and safety come before any evidential consideration.

2

Secure and cordon

Set a perimeter and a single controlled route in and out.

3

Record

Photograph, sketch and log the scene before anything is moved.

4

Recover

Collect in an order that protects the most fragile traces first.

5

Package and submit

Seal, label and transfer with continuity documented throughout.

6

Review

Reassess the scene strategy as the account of events develops.

Educational reference. Scene protocols are jurisdiction-specific; this is the general logic, not any force's written procedure.